GAINING ACCESS

OVERVIEW

- Identify the Fundamentals of Extrication
- Equipment safety for the EMT
- Gaining access to the patient
- Removing the Patient

Fundamentals of Extrication

- Role of the EMT-Basic
  - Non-rescue EMS
  - Administer necessary care to the patient before extrication and assure that the patient is removed in a way to minimize further injury

Non-Rescue EMS Cont…

- Patient care precedes extrication unless delayed movement would endanger life of the rescuer

Non-Rescue EMS Cont...

- Working with others
  - The non-rescue EMS provider will need to work together with the providers of rescue
  - The non-rescue EMT-Basic should cooperate with the activities of the rescuer, and not allow their activities to interfere with patient care

Rescue EMS

- In some instances, the EMS providers are also the rescue providers
- A chain of command should be established to assure patient care priorities

  - Administer necessary care to the patient

    before extrication and assure that the patient is removed in a way to minimize further injury

Rescue EMS Cont...

- Patient care precedes extrication unless

  delayed movement would endanger life

  of the patient or rescuer

EQUIPMENT

Equipment

- Personal safety

  - The number one priority for all EMS personnel

  - Protective clothing that is appropriate for the situation should be utilized

Equipment

- Patient safety - following the safety of the EMS responders, the next priority is the safety of the patient
  - The patient should be informed of the unique aspects of extrication
  - The patient should be protected from broken glass, sharp metal and other hazards, including the environment

GETTING TO THE PATIENT

Getting to the Patient

- Simple access - does not require equip.
  - Try opening each door
  - Roll down windows
  - Have patient unlock doors

Getting to the Patient

- Complex access - requires use of tools, special equipment. These are separate programs that should be taken (Trench, High Angle, Basic Vehicle Rescue)

Removing the Patient

Removing the Patient

- Maintain cervical spine stabilization
- Complete initial assessment
- Provide critical interventions
- Immobilize spine securely
  - Short spine board
  - Rapid extrication considerations

Removing the Patient Cont…

- Move the patient , not the immobilization
- Use sufficient personnel
- Choose path of least resistance
- Continue to protect patient from hazards

Conclusion

- Summary
  - Identify the fundamentals of extrication
  - Equipment safety for the EMT
  - Gaining access to the Patient
  - Removing the patient

Questions